

Subject: FW: Request for public hearing

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MSHA/OSRV

-----Original Message-----

From: Gordon W. Rosier [mailto:fifisdads@msn.com]

Sent: Sunday, April 07, 2002 1:28 PM

To: comments@msha.gov

Cc: Steven Peplau; Scott Isham - DIST4X; Scott Bundgaard; Sandy Bahr; Rusty Bowers; Phil Hanson; Max Wilson; Mary Rose Garrido Wilcox; Mark Reardon; Jay Heiler; Jacqueline E. Schafer; H. Guenther; grand.canyon.chapter@sierraclub.org; Ed Cirillo; Drew Langley; Don Stapley; DMartin@mi.state.az.us; David Madrid; Darden Hamilton; Charles Hart - PLANDEVX; Cathy O'Connell; Brenda Burns; asmi11@mindspring.com; Andrew Kunasek; Al Brown

Subject: Request for public hearing

Regarding your News Release No. 02-181 -

www.msha.gov/MEDIA/PRESS/2002/NR020328.HTM

Request MSHA conduct a public hearing in the Phoenix area for the following reasons:

100 Sand and gravel mines are in operation in Maricopa County - all are located in residential areas - population 3.5 million. Included thereon but not necessarily limited to sand and gravel mines/production are asphalt recycling/ asphalt/rubber asphalt/cement/redi mix/batch plants/gas/diesel recycling. In order to transport sand and gravel products, 700 diesel trucks transit our communities daily.

Accessing the exposure rates of miners to asbestos is a forthright and responsible process. MSHA recently tested 25 mining facilities in Arizona. Twenty four facilities tested positive. Tests results were based on a miners eight hour exposure day. Residents residing near the mines are exposed 24 hours a day - with levels equal to or greater than asbestos data of Libby, Montana. Sun City (Zip Code 85351 - population 40,000) has a 20 times greater death rate from asbestos than anywhere in the country. The Sun Cities are retirement communities - population 250,000. Included therein are family communities. Other zip codes in Maricopa County render the same statistical asbestos data. Arizona's mining history and activities related thereto have established the need for cleanup funds to bury asbestos ridden communities - probably ignoring miners and residents.

Additionally, the asbestos test data your agency has recently produced is important to individuals who have requested same in order to establish the severity of asbestos in our communities. The out of pocket cost to obtain MSHA data is prohibitive - a resolution to the fees you charge for data is hereby requested.

Tucson and other areas within Arizona are experiencing the same mining/residential infusion. Not a good mix. Your hearing process therefore is extremely important and vital to the survival of miners and residents.

Respectfully,

Gordon W. Rosier and Arne Bidstrup, Directors
Sun City Home Owners Association

AB24-Comm-3